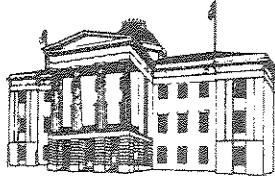


State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 106

HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES

WHEREAS, it is North Carolina's collective expectation that all citizens of the state will be given equal opportunities to participate in providing State government with the goods and services it requires; and

WHEREAS, it is my expectation, as Governor of the State, that this will be accomplished without regard to race, gender, or disabling condition; and

WHEREAS, when the General Assembly set the purchasing policy for the State, it encouraged State agencies to provide contracting opportunities for small and historically underutilized businesses (hereinafter "HUBs") as defined in North Carolina General Statutes §143-48, which include businesses owned by minorities, women, and the disabled; and

WHEREAS, it is my desire that a coordinated effort is undertaken to eliminate any barriers which may have acted as impediments to equal opportunities for HUBs in doing business with the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, by the power vested in me as Governor by the laws and Constitution of North Carolina, **IT IS ORDERED:**

Each executive branch agency should strive to increase the total amount of goods and services acquired by it from HUB vendors, whether directly as principal contractors or indirectly as subcontractors or otherwise. It is expected that each agency will issue an aspirational goal of